

This week, I went to my dentist and visited with one of the dental hygienists there. We have known each other for a few years and I have watched her marry, move downtown and start a family. She is the proud mother of a two year old daughter. Last Christmas, her daughter was diagnosed with pediatric bone marrow cancer. It was devastating news. She got the best new treatment technology, based on cutting edge stem cell therapy. I strongly support lifting restrictions on stem cell research and lead the fight in the House last Spring to pass the Stem Cell bill. Accelerating this research will give hope to patients around the world and right here at home. Last month, this little girl suffered a stroke. Stem cell therapy offers great hope but needs more research so that it can work with fewer complications. She is recovering now but I dearly wish we had moved the research faster. The Stem Cell bill is now in the Senate. I would urge everyone that cares to urge our Senators to pass it quickly so that we can quickly move stem cell therapies from the experimental to tested, trusted mainstream medicine.